



OJJDP FACT SHEET

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Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants Program

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This Fact Sheet provides summary information regarding the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants (JAIBG) program, a new block grant program designed to promote greater accountability in the juvenile justice system. It is being administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Public Law 105-119, Making Appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 1998, and for other Purposes (Appropriations Act), November 26, 1997, appropriated \$250 million for the JAIBG program described in Title III of H.R. 3, as passed by the House of Representatives on May 8, 1997. After deducting statutory set-asides for program administration (\$5.25 million); research, evaluation, and demonstration (\$7.5 million); and training and technical assistance (\$5 million), the balance available for distribution to eligible States is \$232.25 million.

State Eligibility and Program Areas

In order to qualify for Fiscal Year (FY) 1998 funds under the JAIBG program, each Governor or other chief executive from the 56 qualifying "State" jurisdictions must certify that the State has adopted, is considering, or will consider within 1 year State laws, policies, or procedures that would (1) subject juveniles age 15 or over who are alleged to have committed a "serious violent crime" to criminal prosecution by operation of law or prosecutor direct file; (2) impose sanctions on juvenile offenders for every delinquent act, including probation violations, and escalate sanctions for each subsequent more serious offense or probation violation; (3) establish a system of juvenile delinquency records that subjects juvenile felony offenders who have a prior delinquency adjudication to having their records treated in a manner equivalent to adult records, including submission of such records to the FBI; and (4) ensure that State law does not prohibit juvenile court judges from issuing court orders requiring parental supervision of a juvenile offender and from imposing sanctions for violations of such orders.

In addition to the four areas of certification listed above, the Appropriations Act also requires that a State or unit of local government, to be eligible to receive a JAIBG grant or subgrant award, must have implemented or must agree to implement by January 1, 1999, a policy of testing appropriate categories of juveniles within the juvenile justice system for use of controlled substances.

Of the funds available for awards to States in FY 1998, individual allocations, based on population under age 18, range from \$1.2 million to \$22.5 million per State. Funds are available for 12 juvenile justice system related program purpose areas:

- ◆ Construction of juvenile detention or correctional facilities, including training of personnel.
- ◆ Accountability-based sanctions programs.
- ◆ Hiring of judges, probation officers, and defenders and funding of pretrial services.
- ◆ Hiring of prosecutors.
- ◆ Funding of prosecutor-led drug, gang, and violence programs.
- ◆ Provision of technology, equipment, and training programs for prosecutors.
- ◆ Probation programs.
- ◆ Gun courts.
- ◆ Drug courts.
- ◆ Information sharing systems.
- ◆ Accountability-based programs for law enforcement referrals or those that are designed to protect students and school personnel from drug, gang, and youth violence.
- ◆ Controlled substance testing (including interventions) for juveniles in the juvenile justice system.